

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-17 (Canceled)

18. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member, comprising: at least one layer of strands of synthetic fiber material; an outer casing which encases the strands, first contact regions between the outer casing and the strands that form a fixed connection between the outer casing and the strands; and a lubricant selectively incorporated into second contact regions between strands so as to reduce a coefficient of friction, said lubricant being admixed with an impregnant of the strands.

19. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member, comprising: at least one layer of strands of synthetic fiber material; an outer casing which encases the strands, first contact regions between the outer casing and the strands that form a fixed connection between the outer casing and the strands;

and a lubricant selectively incorporated into second contact regions between strands so as to reduce a coefficient of friction, said lubricant being a sufficiently large molecule so that it cannot escape through the outer casing.

20. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member, comprising: at least one layer of strands of synthetic fiber material, an outer casing which encases strands; an intermediate casing which encases strands, the outer casing and the strands having first contact regions that form a fixed connection between the outer casing and strands; and lubricant selectively incorporated into second contact regions between strands so as to reduce a coefficient of friction, third contact regions being formed between the intermediate casing and an outer strand layer, said lubricant increasing the coefficient of friction in said third contact regions, and fourth contact regions being formed between the intermediate casing and an inner strand layer, said lubricant increasing the coefficient of friction in the fourth contact regions.

21. (New) A drive-cable support or traction member according to claim 20, wherein the fourth contact regions are lubricated by admixing lubricant with a material of the intermediate casing

and/or applying lubricant to the intermediate casing.

22. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member, comprising: at least one layer of strands of synthetic fiber material; an outer casing which encases strands; an intermediate casing which encases strands, the outer casing and the strands having first contact regions that form a fixed connection between the outer casing and strands, the intermediate casing and an inner strand layer having fourth contact regions that form a fixed connection between the intermediate casing and the inner strand layer; and lubricant selectively incorporated into second contact regions between strands so as to reduce a coefficient of friction, third contact regions being formed between the intermediate casing and an outer strand layer, said lubricant increasing the coefficient of friction in the third contact regions.

23. (New) A drive-cable support or traction member according to claim 20, wherein the second regions are lubricated by admixing lubricant with an impregnant of the strands and/or applying lubricant to at least one outer surface of the strands.

24. (New) A drive-cable support or traction member according to

claim 22, wherein the second regions are lubricated by admixing lubricant with an impregnant of the strands and/or applying lubricant to at least one outer surface of the strands.

25. (New) A drive-cable support or traction member according to claim 20, wherein the third regions are lubricated by admixing lubricant with a material of the intermediate casing and/or applying lubricant to the intermediate casing.

26. (New) A drive-cable support or traction member according to claim 22, wherein the third regions are lubricated by admixing lubricant with a material of the intermediate casing and/or applying lubricant to the intermediate casing.

27. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member according to claim 18, wherein the lubricant is a dry lubricant and/or a wet lubricant.

28. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member according to claim 19, wherein the lubricant is a dry lubricant and/or a wet lubricant.

29. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member according

to claim 20, wherein the lubricant is a dry lubricant and/or a wet lubricant.

30. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member according to claim 22, wherein the lubricant is a dry lubricant and/or a wet lubricant.

31. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member according to claim 27, wherein said lubricant is a sufficiently large molecule so that it cannot escape through the outer casing.

32. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member according to claim 29, wherein said lubricant is a sufficiently large molecule so that it cannot escape through the outer casing.

33. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member according to claim 30, wherein said lubricant is a sufficiently large molecule so that it cannot escape through the outer casing.

34. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member according to claim 18, wherein at least one of:

the outer casing and the strands are melted together at least regionally in first contact regions;

a matrix material of the strands has at least one additive

to assist a material bond; and

the outer casing is melted with the matrix material of the strands at least regionally in the first contact regions.

35. New) A drive-capable support or traction member according to claim 20, wherein at least one of:

the outer casing and the strands are melted together at least regionally in first contact regions;

a matrix material of the strands has at least one additive to assist a material bond; and

the outer casing is melted with the matrix material of the strands at least regionally in the first contact regions.

36. New) A drive-capable support or traction member according to claim 22, wherein at least one of:

the outer casing and the strands are melted together at least regionally in first contact regions;

a matrix material of the strands has at least one additive to assist a material bond; and

the outer casing is melted with the matrix material of the strands at least regionally in the first contact regions.

37. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member according

to claim 22, wherein at least one of:

the intermediate casing and the strands in the fourth contact regions are melted together at least regionally;

a matrix material of the strands has at least one additive to assist a material bond; and

the intermediate casing is melted with the matrix material of the strands at least regionally in the fourth contact regions.

38. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member according to claim 37, wherein at least one of:

the outer casing and the strands are melted together at least regionally in the first contact regions;

a matrix material of the strands has at least one additive to assist a material bond; and

the outer casing is melted with the matrix material of the strands at least regionally in first contact regions.

39. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member according to claim 18, wherein the member is one of a single cable, a double cable, a flat belt, a cogged belt, and a poly V-belt.

40. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member according to claim 19, wherein the member is one of a single cable, a

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double cable, a flat belt, a cogged belt, and a poly V-belt.

41. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member according to claim 20, wherein the member is one of a single cable, a double cable, a flat belt, a cogged belt, and a poly V-belt.

42. (New) A drive-capable support or traction member according to claim 22, wherein the member is one of a single cable, a double cable, a flat belt, a cogged belt, and a poly V-belt.

43. (New) A method of manufacturing a drive-capable support or traction member having at least one layer of strands of synthetic fiber material and an outer casing which encases the strands, the method comprising the steps of: providing at least one layer of strands of synthetic fiber material; encasing the strands with an outer casing whereby a fixed connection is formed in first contact regions between the outer casing and the strands; and selectively incorporating lubricant into second contact regions between the strands so as to reduce a coefficient of friction between the strands in the second contact region.

44. (New) A method according to claim 43, including using at least one of a wet lubricant and a dry lubricant.

45. (New) A method according to claim 44, wherein the dry lubricant is at least one of the group consisting of talcum, graphite powder, molybdenum disulfide, polytetrafluorethylene, lead, gold, silver, boron trioxide, lead oxide, zinc oxide, copper oxide, molybdenum trioxide, and titanium dioxide.

46. (New) A method according to claim 44, wherein the wet lubricant is at least one of the group consisting of animal oil, plant oil, petrochemical oil, synthetic oil or grease, glycerol, polybutane, polymer ester, polyolefines, polyglycols, silicon, soap, natural waxes, resins or tars, and synthetic waxes, resins or tars.

47. (New) A method according to claim 44, wherein the wet lubricant includes additives of at least one of organic and inorganic thickeners.

48. (New) A method according to claim 47, wherein the additives are at least one of the group consisting of organic polymers, polycarbamides, metal soap, silicates, metal oxides, silicic acid, and organophilic bentonite.